Anthrax
Maxime Coles MD

Anthrax is a rare but serious infectious disease caused by an anaerobic gram-positive, rod-shaped bacteria known as “Bacillus Anthracis”. It is a spore-forming bacterium which may affect livestock and humans. Although it is rare, people can get sick if they come in close contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products. We chose to discuss this topic, this month, because of many cases recently discovered in our country, in area like Jeremie, Haiti, where the disease is endemic.

I remember like it was yesterday the first time I saw the manifestations of this disease in a 42-year-old gentleman farmer examined with the Late Raoul Pierre-Louis MD, dermatologist, Dean of the Medical school and chief of the Department of Dermatology. Our group of externs was performing in a mandatory rotation in the external clinic of Dermatology and we were eager to learn. We looked for appropriated gloves to satisfy our curiosity and palpated a painless lesion on the patient’s right forearm. We understood then, that he was constantly in contact with horses and has recently lost two animals without being able to understand the reason behind their death. I was told that the skin lesions were strongly contaminant especially when a “pustule” was present, but it is clear to me that Science has no proof that one could be contaminated by another human being.

The term anthrax comes from the Greek word for “coal” because of the color black of the skin lesions.

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The black eschar has been the hallmark of the disease in its cutaneous manifestation. The English were the first to coin the word ‘anthrax’ in 1938, but other names have surfaced through the years like “Siberian plaque”, “Cumberland disease”, “Charbon”, “Splenic fever”, “Malignant Edema”, “wool sorter’s disease” and “La maladie de Bradford”.

In Wolsztyn, Poland, a German physician and scientist, Robert Koch, identified a bacterium responsible for the disease in 1875 and he established for the first time, a relation between the clinical symptoms and the infectious agent. He studied the mechanism of the disease, uncovered the lifecycle and the means of transmission. His work awarded him the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1905, for his discovery at a period when scientists were still believing in a “spontaneous generation” theory. Koch went on to study another bacillus related to Tuberculosis, and coined his name to it. Other physicians were more concerned on how to prevent the animals or the humans from catching the disease. John Henry Bell, a physician based in Bradford made the link between the” wool sorters” and the Anthrax disease in 1878. but it was a German bacteriologist, Friederich Wilhelm Eurich who elucidated the problem of industrial anthrax. He was instrumental also in dressing the Anthrax Prevention Act in 1919.

Anthrax is a rare human disease which can be seen in underdeveloped countries like Haiti or any other countries lacking public-health regulations preventing exposure to infected goats, cattle, sheep and horses. The disease can be also seen in dogs and cats. It is most common in Africa and Southern Asia and occasionally can be seen in Southern Europe. The disease is very uncommon in the United States and Northern Europe. Around the world, 2,000 cases a year are reported while only 2 cases have been discovered in the United States.

Drum players, drum makers and their family have been infected by close contact. Veterinarians, farmers, travelers visiting areas where anthrax is endemic, laboratory personnel, mail handlers, military personnel, individual trained in bioterrorist and biological warfare are all at risk to develop the disease when exposed to the bacteria. In bioterrorism, there is an intentional will to release biological agents like viruses, germs or bacteria. Anthrax is one of the disease caused by this intention like botulism, plague, smallpox, brucellosis, ricin toxin poisoning, cholera, epidemic typhus, viral encephalitis, tuberculosis to name only some. Concentrated anthrax spores were used for bioterrorism in 2001 anthrax attacks in the United States and delivered by mailing letters containing the spores to media news offices and two democratic senators. As a result, 22 were infected and 5 died. It seems that only 2 grams of material were used to carry the attack. Now the US Postal Service has installed biohazard detection systems at his major distribution center to scan for anthrax.

Anthrax can infect a host in four ways:

Through the skin with the presence of a dark sore.
Humans and animals can contract it from carcasses of dead animal previously contaminated with Anthrax. Ingesting the bacteria can cause serious contamination and death.
The inhalation of the spores brings the deadliest form of the disease. Once inhaled, they migrate to the lymph nodes in the chest and proliferate and spread in producing toxins causing death.
A new form by injection has been described in heroin drug abusers.

Skin infection is the more common manifestation, seen in 95 % of the cases. Without any treatment, the risk of death from a cutaneous anthrax ranges in the 24%, while the risk of death in anthrax involving the gastrointestinal tract ranges in the 25 to 75%. The risk of death in respiratory anthrax is 50 to 75 % even with appropriated treatment. Prior to the 20th century, anthrax infections killed hundreds of people and animals each year but now that the bacillus has been used as a weapon of mass destruction, we would expect the number to grow extensively. Animal eating plants can breathe the spores while grazing and carnivores may ingest meat of an infected animal with the bacteria and contract the disease. Spores can survive in harsh conditions for many years. In such form, it has been found on all continents, included Antarctica.
Occupational exposure to infected animal or their products (skin, wool, meat) is the usual pathway for exposure to a human being. Workers who are exposed to dead animals carrying the disease are at risk for contamination. Anthrax in livestock grazing especially when wild animals are kept together, can happen in the United States or elsewhere. Generally, it is believed that workers dealing with wool are constantly exposed to anthrax spores but the exposure level may not be sufficient for them to develop an Anthrax infection. The inhalation of at least 10,000 to 20,000 spores can result in such infection. In the past, those workers, victims of inhalation of the anthrax spores, were called “wool sorters”, as an occupational hazard. Nowadays, this form is extremely rare because of almost, the absence of animals with anthrax.

It is obvious that one does not find evidence that Anthrax can be transmitted from person to person, but it is possible especially when we know that the skin lesions found in the disease may be contagious at the pustule stage, through direct contact. It is expected that a brake in the texture of the recipient’s skin may allow the penetration of the bacillus, then exceptionally transmit the disease. Anthrax is a life-threatening disease affecting animal’s ruminants like goats, sheep and horses. The bacillus is a Gram positive, anaerobic rod able to survive in a form of spores, very resistant and difficult to destroy. The bacteria were able to secret three toxins in form of proteins: Protective antigen, Lethal factor, and Edema factor which when combined together, present a menace to the one inhaling the spores.

In recent years the bacillus of Anthrax has received a lot of publicity for its involvement in terrorist attacks. In fact, it is little known that the bacillus of Anthrax has been used as a weapon for the last hundred years. In 1916, the Nordic Rebels, supported by the German General Staff used anthrax spores in Finland against the Imperial Army. In the 1930s, the Japanese Kwantung Army, in Manchuria, performed testing on prisoners of war, killing thousands. Anthrax was investigated as “Agent N”, by the allies in 1940. In 1942, British bioweapons trials severely contaminated Gruinard Island. in Scotland with anthrax spores of the” Vollum-14578 strain” until it was decontaminated in 1990. An N-bomb containing dried anthrax spores, and 5 millions of cattle cakes (pellets impregnated with anthrax spores) were prepared for contamination of the cattle in Germany, and expected to be dropped by the Royal Air force in 1944 with “Operation Vegetarian”. They were not used but needed to be incinerated in late 1945. They remained in stock until President Nixon ordered the dismantling of the US bio warfare program in 1969.

We know well the involvement of the CIA in delivering to the anti-Castro rebels, spores of anthrax to start the destruction of the pigs on the island of Cuba. The weapon was delivered on a military base in Panama and transported to the island of La Navase, and then to Guantonamo. The infestation of the pigs was successful necessitating the killing of 200,000 animals was necessary to avoid the propagation of anthrax to the entire island of Cuba. (Reported in AMHE Newsletter # 261: 9-2-19). In 1979, the Rhodesian government used anthrax against cattle and humans to fight the rebels. The Soviet Union created and stored almost 200 tons of anthrax at Kantubekon Vozrozhdeniya island. The project was abandoned in 1992 and the anthrax spores were destroyed in 2002.

In 2001, Anthrax was used for the first time in a mail delivery as a powder, in the United States and was spread through many postal service stations, infecting twenty-two (22) postal workers and killing 5. The spores of Anthrax do not spread generally from person to person either. In Sverdlovsk, Russia, an accidental release of anthrax from a biological weapon complex, exposed at least 94 persons on April 2nd 1979. At least 68 people died, some four days after, some a week after. The last fatal case of inhalation in the USA, occurred in California, in 1976 when a home weaver died after working with infected wool in provenance of Pakistan. The deceased person was bagged and transported to UCLA for autopsy. There have been many outbreaks recently in the world notably in Siberia, Russia (2016), killing 2000 reindeer and 13 Siberians. The authorities believed that this localized out brake was due to
the fact that an infected reindeer which died 75 years ago, was unburied, causing the release of multiple spores.

The disease has a short period of incubation going from one to five days and rarely may take weeks before the infected individual become sick. Let us review the different types:

Cutaneous anthrax represents 90% of all cases. Some has called this phase “hide-porter disease” and it starts with a red spot that increase in size, presenting signs of inflammation, blistering and hardening. The center of the spot becomes itchy and ulcerated creating a crater with blood-tinged drainage followed by the formation of a black crust called eschar. This eschar is painless and some described it as a bread mold which falls off in weeks. The lymph nodes in the area becomes apparent and swollen. Soon they are painful and infected. The victims accuse then muscle aches and pain, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting, resolving in six weeks. Death may occur if proper treatment with antibiotics is not administered in time. It is the least dangerous form with a low mortality rate with treatment and with a 20% mortality rate without any treatment. This form is generally found when humans handled infected animals and their products. If appropriately treated, this form of anthrax is rarely fatal because the infection is mainly limited to the skin preventing the release of toxins that still can be seen in 20% of the cases with subsequent toxemia.

Anthrax by inhalation, brings subtle and gradual signs of flu-like with sore-throat and headaches in a first stage and then the illness worsens in a few days into severe respiratory distress with shortness of breath, cough and chest pain. This form of catching the infection is rare. The disease attacks first the lymph nodes causing flu-like or cold symptoms. Soon, patient will demonstrate an increase in temperature, shortness of breath, cough, fatigue and chills. It is important to recognize the disease because fatalities from inhalation anthrax do happen if left untreated. A second stage will manifest with an unusual pneumonia, spreading from the lymph nodes and to the lungs in days following the original inhalation. It is not a true pneumonia. High fever and extreme shortness of breath can be seen. Patient can even cough blood until shock or coma ensues. The macrophages killed the spores or they get transported to the chest lymph nodes and into the lungs. Soon, the entire body is infected. Most affected (85%) at that stage will die if proper antibiotics are not immediately delivered to kill the bacteria but unfortunately not the deadly toxins already released through the body will be controlled.

In the herbivores or humans, the infection by inhalational route, will allow the inhaled spores to be transported to the air passage into the alveoli, in the lungs. The spores are picked up by the macrophages and directed through the lymphatic system into the mediastinum. Damage by the spores and the bacilli causes chest pain and difficulty in breathing. In the lymph nodes, the spores germinate into active bacilli to burst the microphages releasing more bacilli into the blood stream. Once in the blood stream, these bacilli release 3 endotoxins: Lethal Factor, Edema Factor, Protective antigen which in combination are very lethal to the humans while individually they are not offensive. They induced an extensive tissue destruction, bleeding and the death of the host if left untreated. During the 2001 anthrax attack, these considerations were taken on time and the fatality rate fell down to 45%. You need seriously to distinguish pulmonary anthrax from the more common causes of respiratory illness to avoid any delay in delivering the appropriated antibiotics and to improve the outcomes. Anecdotally, in 2008, a drum maker in the United Kingdom who generally works with untreated animal skin, died of anthrax by inhalation.

Gastrointestinal anthrax is the result of absorption of undercooked and contaminated meat with the bacillus. Patient soon becomes symptomatic with nausea, loss of appetite, bloody diarrhea and fever with intense abdominal pain and loss of appetite. Occasionally, bloody vomiting can be seen as well. The bacteria invade through the bowel wall and the infection spreads throughout the entire body via the bloodstream with a deadly toxicity. Lesions have been found in the intestines, the mouth and the throat. Gastrointestinal infections can be treated with appropriated antibiotics but results in fatality in 25 to 60% of the cases. This is the rarest form of
transmission of Anthrax. Recent evidence indicates that anthrax targets the endothelial cells that line, the serous cavities such as the pericardium, the pleura, the peritoneal cavity, the lymphatic vessels and the blood vessels causing leakage of fluid and ultimately causes the hypovolemic shock and septic shock. Gastrointestinal anthrax is extremely rare in the United States. Only two cases have been reported. The first one was in 1942 and the second one in 2009. The CDC investigated the second case and found it related an African drum. She became critically ill with the spores hidden in the drum but developed a gastrointestinal form of the disease. She was fully treated and recovered.

A new form of anthrax has been identified in “heroin-injecting-drug-users” in Northern Europe but has not yet been reported in the United States. Symptoms may take days to months prior to surface in an itchy small blister or a bump at the injection site with local inflammation. Fever and chills will accompany the swelling around the sores. A deep abscess may be encountered under the skin or the muscle. Later, a painless skin sore with a black center may appear once the blister dry out. In 2009, such outbreak of the disease was seen among some heroin addicts in the Glasgow and Stirling areas of Scotland, killing 14. The source of the anthrax is believed to be the dilution of the heroin with bone meal from Afghanistan.

The diagnosis is made through the history; One has to take in consideration the type of occupation the victim practices. Smears for Gram stains and cultures may allow the recognition of the bacteria in the skin lesions, throat swabs and sputum may do the same in pulmonary anthrax. As we know already, the bacillus anthrasic is a rod-shaped, Gram positive anaerobic, discovered by Robert Koch in 1876, when he took a blood sample from an infected cow. The bacterium normally rest under the form of a spore, in the soil and can survive for decades. Animal grazing can become infected. Once ingested or placed in an open wound, the bacteria begin multiplying inside the host and can kill it in a matter of days or weeks. The spores germinate at the site of entry into the tissues and spread to the circulation via the lymphatics where they multiply. The production of three powerful exotoxins by the bacteria, causes death. Most anthrax bacteria inside the body after death are outcompeted and destroyed by anaerobic bacteria within minutes to hours post mortem. However, anthrax vegetative bacteria that escape the body via oozing blood may form hardy spores as well but they are not contagious but hard to eradicate. Chest X-Rays may show characteristic changes in the lungs or mediastinum. One can also look for excessive fluid or edema in the parenchyma. In disseminated forms, blood cultures will reveal the bacteria responsible for the disease. Anthrax is a mandatory reportable disease. Local and state health agencies must be notified once diagnosed.

Longtime ago, all cases of anthrax would be kept in isolation or in quarantine but since Anthrax does not spread really from an infected human being to another generally, that practice has ceased. Early treatment in the disease, brings cure. Tetracycline, Erythromycin, Ciprofloxacin have all been successful in treating the cutaneous form of the disease. Continuous intravenous antibiotic therapy is lifesaving in the pulmonary form of anthrax. This becomes a medical emergency. A vaccine which has not been available to the public, exist already. This vaccine can be given to personnel employees or other victims who have been exposed to a bioterrorist attack. Four antibiotics have been recommended in individual exposed to aerosolized spores during any bioterrorism attacks: Doxycycline, Ciprofloxacin, Levofloxacin and parenteral procaine penicillin G coupled with a three dose series of anthrax vaccine. If a deceased person is suspected having died from anthrax, precautions should be taken to avoid skin contact with the contaminated body and fluids. The body should be placed in quarantine and blood samples should be collected to ascertain the cause of death and sealed in a container. The body should be incinerated.

The NIH approved a high efficiency respirator and disposable personal protective equipment, rubber gloves, rubber boots to handle such bodies. Preventive antibiotics have been suggested for individuals who have been exposed, as soon as possible. Two months of antibiotics such as Cipro or Doxycycline after exposure can also prevent infection or treat infection with possibly antitoxin. Even if
anthrax does not spread directly from person to person, the person’s clothing or the body can be contaminated with anthrax spores. The use of antimicrobial soaps and water will allow a washout and the decontamination the clotting by boiling in water for at least 30 minutes. Formaldehyde and clothes burning are also effective in destroying the spores.

Vaccine against anthrax for use in livestock and in humans is well known in the history of medicine. Louis Pasteur, French scientist developed the first effective vaccine in 1881. The human anthrax vaccine comes from the Soviet Union in the late 1930’s. Later in the US and UK, in the 1950’s. The vaccine was approved by the FDA in 1960’s. These vaccines are different. A live vaccine (Russia) and an acellular vaccine (USA) are both used but present considerable local and systemic reactions like erythema, induration, soreness, fever. In the past, they were administered in 5 doses or in 6 doses with an annual booster but they failed to be effective. A New generation of vaccines is present on the market: Recombinant live vaccines and Recombinant subunit vaccines which have been used routinely to immunize military personnel in the United States and the United Kingdom. There are no public healthcare measures that can be taken to prevent contact with infected animals. The vaccine is also available especially for the one at risk like the veterinarians, laboratory technicians, employees working with goat hairs in the textile industry. Present vaccines have great efficacy and few side effects may develop once given in deep injection to fat or muscle. Finally, an early experimental oral vaccine used on animals, has shown promise. Days are not far when we will be able to use a pill for prevention.

The prognosis depends on the type of Anthrax infection, you are dealing with and the rapid response to an adequate treatment. Anthrax has become a rare disease in the Unites States and the developed countries but remained an endemic disease in all underdeveloped countries especially when they are lacking public health regulations. May I conclude that we have exposed the way Anthrax infects humans and animals: The most common manifestation of the disease is by the cutaneous route and the deadliest form is by inhalation of the spores. The intestinal form remains a rare but serious form of the disease while we are still learning from the “injectable form” discovered in heroin drug addicts. Be vigilant when you are visiting livestock while travelling.

Maxime Coles MD

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LE DERNIER TANGO DE MYRIAM

Myriam avait 17 ans quand elle épousa un jeune soldat Américain stationné sur une base Américaine de Grande Bretagne. Elle est de nationalité anglaise. La deuxième guerre mondiale venait tout juste de prendre fin. La popularité de l’Amérique était à son paroxysme. C’était le temps fou, comme il en existe encore de ce temps –la aujourd’hui, où les jeunes femmes des pays nordiques, couraient après les soldats américains partout où ils passèrent, eux qui les marièrent et les ramenèrent au pays d’où ils venaient. Aujourd’hui, elle a 76 ans. Elle a été sur presque tous les continents avec son cher époux, jusqu’au jour où ce dernier mourut dans ses bras, tout juste six ans de cela, quelques dix mois après qu’ils aient emménagé dans leur nouvel appartement. Triste de sort pour une femme qui n’a connu qu’un seul homme de sa vie ; et pour qui elle fut une compagne assidue et fidele pendant près de 54 ans de vie commune. Comme elle venait à peine de prendre logis dans le nouvel appartement, la perte de l’être cher devait être le cadet de ses soucis, elle qui espérait encore avoir son mari pour des années à ses côtés. Quand j’ai parlé à Myriam l’autre jour, et discutant de ses projets d’avenir, elle m’apprit avec un sentiment de soulagement mêlé de regrets, qu’elle devra bientôt laisser l’appartement pour rejoindre sa fille unique qui vit en Géorgie. Elle comprend qu’elle a bien essayé de vivre seule ,mais qu’elle a besoin d’être plus près des siens de cette sécurité émotionnelle, faute de quoi, ce sont les maisons de retraite qui s’ouvrent à sa portée. Les gens du troisième âge, particulièrement ceux qui ont soixante –dix ans et plus, ont toujours eu cette peur bleue de rentrer dans les maisons de retraite, car cet acte s’accompagne souvent d’une perte totale de son autonomie, voire de sa capacité décisionnelle. Et quand Myriam m’apprit qu’elle s’en ira directement de l’hôpital et ne retournera pas dans son appartement avant de rejoindre sa fille, je lui proposais de faire un tour dans ce qui sera bientôt son ancienne habitation et de regarder l’appartement pour une dernière fois. On a toujours besoin de cette transition en douceur pour fermer une page de sa vie avant d’en ouvrir une autre. Ce n’est pas sans raison que le criminel revient toujours sur les lieux de son crime. il a toujours ce besoin de savoir que le crime était parfait et qu’il n’a point laissé de traces.

Encore plus Myriam aura-t-elle ce besoin de fermer le livre des souvenirs, des traces de son époux mort dans cet ancien appartement, de dire adieu à ses ami(e)s et voisin(e)s, et de savoir ce qu’il en est des tas de souvenirs collectés au fil des ans et ensevelis ça et là dans son subconscient. Même en les passant physiquement à autrui, nous gardons cependant la mémoire intellectuelle des biens ou objets que nous possédions. Myriam partira bientôt de l’hôpital où elle était rentrée, trois semaines de cela, pour se faire soigner de son alcoolisme. Elle entamera sitôt après, le dernier tango de sa vie...libérée de son alcoolisme mais replacée sous la surveillance de sa fille. Et nous aussi, exécutant chaque jour un nouveau tango, nous valsons au rythme du temps, fixant les priorités du moment tout en naviguant dans les incertitudes de l’avenir.

Rony Jean-Mary, M.D.
Coral Springs, Florida.
le 30 Septembre 2019
Lorsque comme gamin nous récitions les textes de notre histoire dans le manuel terne de Dorsainvil, les faits étaient flous, dépourvus de signification, une tâche navrante car on devait retenir un tas de dates, de noms sans de sens. Le problème fondamental débute avec le livre écrit par un historien haïtien en collaboration avec les Frères de l’Instruction Chrétienne, réputés pour leur tendance conservatrice et leur biais gaulois. D’emblée une version censurée des événements serait présentée. Comme c’est souvent le cas pour notre milieu, une combinaison de faits aggravait une bonne instruction de notre passé. L’absence de la liberté d’expression, pire pendant le régime de François, entravait les enseignants séculiers tandis que le biais des religieux bretons dans les écoles congréganistes mettait un frein à toute discussion sur la cruauté de l’esclavage. Simultanément d’après le catéchisme prêché quotidiennement, nous devrions nous aimer les uns les autres. Par conséquence notre histoire ne fut jamais bien distillée, analysée, délibérée, débattue, appréciée à sa juste valeur et ce pour notre malheur. On se souvient des palabres de huit heures du matin à la radio quand la propagande honorait notre bicolore et nos aïeux qui s’étaient distingués pendant la guerre de l’Indépendance et invariablement citait Pétion comme le panaméricaniste, Boyer comme le l’unificateur. Cette description de ces leaders est dérivée plutôt du révisionnisme assainissant que d’une conclusion basée sur un bilan rigoureux de leur performance pendant leur règne. Pétion et Boyer ont enrayé l’effort de notre nation de concrétiser le rêve du triptyque « Égalité, Liberté, Indépendance. » Ils étaient des privilégiés du système esclavagiste et ne partageaient pas la révulsion des esclaves du supplice du fouet entre les mains de leurs maîtres. Au fait d’après l’auteur Julien Raimond cité par Jean-Alix René, les hommes de couleur libres étaient propriétaires « de la moitié des terres et le tiers des hommes qui les cultivent » et étaient « véritablement attachés aux colonies et leur vrai soutien. » Ils furent tous deux partisans et membres de l’armée de l’ennemi farouche de Toussaint, Rigaud, qui ne souffrait pas d’être sous son obédience et furent exilés en France mais retournèrent sous la bannière de l’armée de Leclerc qui voulait rétablir l’esclavage dans le pays. Politiquement, Pétion et Boyer n’avaient aucune objection au système esclavagiste. Ils furent nos premiers frères siamois en politique. Leur alliance avec Dessalines ne reflétait pas une appartenance à une confrérie mais n’était autre qu’un pacte de convenance car ils partageaient un ennemi commun. Le mot ennemi est fluide et n’est vrai que pour les esclaves ; un mot plus approprié pour les gens de couleur est le présent terme ennemi car ils se sentaient plus proches des blancs que des esclaves. Le racisme des blancs était tel qu’avec des intérêts économiques similaires, les gens de couleur ne bénéficiaient pas des mêmes droits civiques, politiques et sociaux. Contrairement aux États-Unis où patriciens, propriétaires fonciers et esclavagistes, formaient un cercle homogène de fondateurs de nation, notre groupe d’aïeux était hétéroclite, avec des intérêts opposés et seulement un vrai homme d’état de l’acabit de Toussaint pourrait peut-être combler le fossé. Malheureusement il fut écarté quelques
années auparavant et selon certains, Dessalines ne fut pas innocent avec une participation tacite. D’après cette rumeur, Dessalines avait gardé une certaine rancune contre Toussaint qui avait occupé une position choyée dans son atelier tandis que lui, il était un esclave des champs. L’envie, la jalousie, le dédain ont joué un rôle déterminant dans les conflits, une réalité embarrassante mais incontournable. Un conflit politique fort souvent fut basé sur une animosité personnelle pour des raisons individuelles diverses, même qu’en principe les acteurs militèrent dans le même camp. Ce conflit s’amplifia lorsqu’ils sortirent de camps différents.

Il n’est pas surprenant que la politique de Dessalines ne fut pas similaire à celle de Pétion. Il n’est surtout pas surprenant que Pétion n’eût aucun désir de devenir parenté avec Dessalines à travers leur progéniture. Le système rigide de l’époque de stratification sociale par la pigmentation de la peau était pernicieux car une victime pouvait être aussi facilement une coupable de ce préjugé. L’éloignement de Pétion de la politique de Dessalines ne tarda pas à se dessiner. Sur ce sujet, Jacques Casimir a publié une étude superbe qui perce l’image de Pétion comme un grand homme d’état. Par définition, un homme d’état est censé prendre des mesures pour avancer le bien-être de sa nation en offrant des opportunités au plus grand nombre pour la croissance économique, donc l’inclusion et non l’exclusion. Les alliances scellées, les politiques énoncées doivent toujours retenir le désir d’améliorer les conditions locales, de défendre les intérêts du pays. Il avait amorcé une série de mesures qui ne remplaissaient aucune de ces conditions. Il abolit la constitution et la remplaça par une autre offrant des avantages à son entourage et à des français et ignora les anciens esclaves. L’export des denrées, la première source de revenus de l’état était entre les mains d’étrangers et il ét.

L’aide offerte dépassait nos maigres ressources sans rien gagner en retour, pas d’accord commercial, de coopération militaire, zéro. Pétion en subalterne avait suggéré de payer une indemnité à la France pour dédommagement mais devant le refus catégorique de Christophe, s’en est ravisé. Casimir dans son étude donne une description très graphique de la rencontre de Pétion avec ses conseillers et aussi l’extrait d’une lettre envoyée au roi Louis XVIII dans laquelle il s’est démontré comme un laquais pur et simple. La lettre de Christophe au même roi dévoila un homme avec une conviction ferme, prêt à mourir plutôt que de vivre comme esclave. Christophe fut un contrepoids lourd qui guetta Pétion pour le bénéfice de la nation. Les deux furent remplacés par Boyer sans la participation de la population.

Boyer continuera la politique de Pétion avec une amplification et une verve car il n’aura pas l’ombre de Christophe le surveillant. Il s’évertuait de détruire les écoles établies dans le Nord par Christophe car il voyait d’un œil effrayé l’idée d’éduquer les anciens esclaves. Il eut à dire que « Semer l’éducation, c’est semer la révolution. » Il ne les considérait point comme ses égaux. De père français, il est dit qu’il avait toujours souffert de l’amertume de ne pas être accepté comme fils légitime et il faisait de son mieux pour plaire à son père. De facto, il était un privilégié français forcé de vivre en Haïti. Il continuait les efforts de Pétion. Dans un autre acte de générosité démesurée, il donna 25 tonnes de café aux Grecs qui lutttaient contre l’empire ottoman pour leur liberté mais résista de toutes ses fibres à éduquer les anciens esclaves assoiffés de connaissance. Naturellement, Haïti ne fut pas invitée à l’investiture et en sortit bredouille et plus pauvre. Cette notion de solidarité avec les étrangers, est une vive contradiction avec son refus d’offrir une soupape de sécurité sociale, de grossir une large classe tampon contre la pauvreté et avant tout de créer une richesse équitablement partagée.

Boyer créa le Code Rural en 1826 qui contint beaucoup de ressemblances avec le système d’apartheid. Les anciens esclaves devaient travailler la terre et vivre en région rurale et ne pouvaient se déplacer sans une autorisation. Il voulait calquer le système colonial de grandes plantations pour augmenter la production nationale mais il ne tenait pas compte des bas salaires offerts. Il ne put inventor des mesures incitatives pour stimuler la production agricole. Il dirigeait et prenait les décisions seul et ainsi il soudait la notion du leader suprême, omnipotent, omniscient,
infaillible, si possible à-vie, mais loin d’être prescient des besoins du pays à court, moyen, ou long terme. Donnant libre cours à ses insécurités et préjugés, Boyer a accompli ce que Pétion a hésité de faire. Il a accepté de payer une dette lourde à la France. Dubois² décrit la rencontre de Boyer avec Mackau, l’émissaire de Charles X et comment il a été conciliant à l’opposé des autres membres du gouvernement et a acquiescé à une dette de 150 millions de francs dont un premier versement de 30 millions financés par une banque française à un intérêt exorbitant.
Habitués que nous sommes à des omissions scandaleuses, embarrassantes, avilissantes, et à des commissions d’actes crapuleux, lâches, honteux, nauséeux, de gouvernements successifs de notre histoire, cette abdication de Boyer est considérée comme sui generis dans l’échelle d’une commission de malversation. Cette décision fut si contraire à l’esprit de la guerre d’Indépendance, subjuguant le futur du pays presqu’à jamais à une énorme dette, que le mot trahison ne suffit pas pour expliquer cette bévue politique, erreur stratégique, soumission souveraine, solution bancale. Certainement la France défendait ses intérêts. Une fois de plus, Haïti s’était présentée au tribunal sans avocat, une formule qui a fait tache d’huile de toute son existence.
Un vrai patriote en charge de notre destinée devra un jour demander à la France de payer une indemnité pour les millions d’esclaves torturés, tués, blessés, exploités sans rémunérations comme crimes contre l’humanité à condition que l’argent ira pour la construction du pays et non dans des comptes secrets en Europe ou ailleurs. Qu’il fût français de cœur, cependant Boyer eut les caractéristiques des futurs présidents : assoiffé de pouvoir, impitoyable contre ses critiques, utilisant la fusillade comme moyen de rétribution. Chaque dossier qu’il a eu la chance de gérer, il a failli avec la lourdeur d’une masse et la constance d’un métronome. Oui il avait uni l’île mais n’avait pas su comment s’y prendre. Au lieu de bâtir l’infrastructure du pays, il était à jamais inquiété de payer la dette d’indépendance qu’il avait acceptée sans aucune négociation et sans aucune considération de lutte pour la protection de la liberté acquise par le sang versé de vrais patriotes. Détenteur du grade de général, en face d’un combat existentiel, il s’était démontré un père soldat en commettant l’ultime erreur du commandant sur le champ de bataille : déferler le drapeau blanc de la reddition sans coup férir.
Il a régné pendant vingt-cinq ans et a construit vingt-cinq écoles ! Si le chiffre était annuel ce serait au moins acceptable. Il s’est comporté comme maître et seigneur et a tracé la feuille de route du despotisme, du népotisme de clan, la prééminence de l’obscurantisme sur l’instruction et la connaissance, l’échange de butin personnel contre la perte de l’indépendance nationale. Cet exemple tracé fut comme la poule féconde qui a pondu des œufs avec l’ADN qui épanouit la mentalité de luttes intestines, de corruption, le dédain du bien-être collectif, la haine du nous et l’engouement du moi, de l’égocentrisme, l’élève du solipsisme, la persistance de l’esclavage sous le nom de restavèk. Bien longtemps avant notre indépendance, Sonthonax avait promulgué une proclamation dans laquelle il mettait fin au travail de domestique sans rémunération. Citons ce passage :
L’article I, alea V de la Proclamation de Sonthonax disait que « les domestiques des deux sexes ne pourront être engagés au service de leurs maîtres ou maîtresses que pour trois mois, et ce, moyennant le salaire qui sera fixé entre eux (sic) de gré à gré. »
Malgré tout nous sommes le seul pays de l’Amérique qui pratique l’esclavage jusqu’à nos jours. Boyer fut l’image de l’obscurantisme. Il ne s’inquiétait que pour son entourage d’anciens affranchis et ne se foutait pas mal du gros du peuple. Le pire c’est qu’on peut dire la même chose de nos dirigeants actuels qui se partagent le butin dans un cercle restreint. Les œufs de la poule féconde font du bon travail.
Sources.
The process of Impeachment is determined by a legislative body levelling charges against a highly ranked official of the government. The term “Impeachment” is not the equivalent of removal from the office, it is a charge, or an indictment as reported in criminal law. This is the first step toward removal in office. Once one is impeached, he may be convicted by a legislative vote impending on his ability to continue his functions at the high office.

Impeachment finds its origins in the English Law but fell out of favor in the 18th Century. Country like Brazil, India, Ireland, Russia, South Korea as well as the United States and others continue to use the process in their constitution. It requires a majority to impeach or convict an elected or appointed official from a high office because they have committed serious abuses or high crimes in office.

“Impeachment” derives from Old French: empeechier”, from the Latin word “impedicare” meaning the fact of being caught or entrapped like the term “empecher” in French and “impede” in English while in the medieval time, the term “impede” was the equivalent of “attack”. Nowadays, impeach a witness is challenging his credibility and his honesty.

The Impeachment process was first used by the English Parliament to punish Baron Latimer in the 14th century and later in United States, many constitutions of Virginia (1776), Massachusetts (1780) and many other states have adopted such process. Even some organizations as well, have started to develop that notion to impeach. Many other countries also like Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russia, United Kingdom etc. used this process to impeach their presidents with a minimum of 2/3 of the members votes. In United Kingdom, this is the House of Commons, the equivalent of the Congress or Chamber of Representatives for us, that hold the power to initiate such action and if the motion is passed, the mover receives orders to go to the House of Lords, the equivalent of our Senate to impeach the accused. If impeached, the accused remains in custody unless the Lords allow bail. A date for the trial is set and managers are appointed by the Commons, acting as prosecutors. A counsel may defend the accused. The gearing resembles an ordinary trial and both sides present witnesses to testify. If the Lords find the accused guilty, the Commons may move for judgement. Punishment or Royal pardon can conclude the trial with a pardon possibly overriding any decision.

Parliament has always held the power of impeachment but as described above, the House of Commons and further the House of Lords shared the duties until the Reign of Edward IV when this process become the preferred way to deal with undesirable subjects of the Crown. It came back into favor under the reign of James I. In 1820 Queen Caroline, consort of King George IV was tried by the House of Commons and acquitted.

In Modern politics, this procedure has become rarely used because now in a responsible government in Great Britain, the Prime Minister and other executive officers respond to the Parliament allowing the Commons to remove such an officer through a motion of “No confidence” without a long process of impeachment. Many in 1967, still argued that as part of the British constitutional law, a legislation will be needed to abolish it. A Joint Committee in 1999
considered the circumstances of an impeachment so remote that the procedure was found obsolete.

In 2004, Adam Price announced his intention to move to impeach Prime Minister Tony Blair for having Britain involved in the 2003 invasion of Iraq. The Leader of the House of Commons, Peter Han, bluntly responded that the process of impeachment has effectively died with the 1999 Joint Committee report.

In the United States, only two presidents have ever been impeached and neither was convicted of the charges filed against them. The House impeached Andrew Jackson on February 24, 1868 for violating the “Tenure of Office Act”. Bill Clinton was impeached on December 18, 1998 by the House of the Representatives on perjury charges and obstruction of Justice relating to Monica Lewinsky scandal. Clinton was acquitted by the Senate. For Richard Nixon, he most likely would have been impeached but fortunately for him, he resigned from the Presidency in 1974 prior to being convicted.

I remember well the details of the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton with Chief Justice William Rehnquist presiding and the House managers in session as well as the president’s personal Counsel. It was a reminiscence of the trial of President Andrew Jackson more than a century prior. History repeats itself. In all fairness to President Andrew Jackson, the Tenure of Office act was found later to be unconstitutional.

In the USA, the House of Representatives has the sole power of impeachment, similarly as described above with the British system but in variation, this process is the first two stages and if a conviction is needed, it will take the votes of two-third of the members present. Like in the British system, Impeachment does not necessary result in removal from office. A second legislative will determine conviction or acquittal. A supermajority is needed to convict, and the accused may or may not face removal from high office. In the British law as already discussed, there is also Royal Pardon.

The American Law limits Impeachment to The President, Vice-President and all civil officers of the United States who may be removed from office for “treason, bribery or any high crimes”. Ongoing discussions for adding members of Congress to the list of impeachable are being held as well. Senator William Blount was impeached in 1798 and was even expelled from the Senate but the charges were dismissed at the trial. Therefore, this question on members of Congress has been raised and is still debated. No other Member of Congress has ever been impeached. “Expulsion” remains the practical way of choice to “impeach” a Member of Congress or Senate since each house has the authority to expel its own member without involving the other house.

I will refer you to the Jefferson’s Manual to review the rules of the House of Representatives, stipulating that an impeachment is set in motion by charges made on the floor, or on a message from the president or on facts reported by an investigating committee of the House.

At the federal level, there are two steps in an impeachment. The House of Representatives must first pass by a simple majority the articles of Impeachment and next the Senate will try the accused. The chief Justice of the United States presides over the proceedings, but the constitution is silent on who shall preside if any other official is at fault, suggesting that it maybe the role of the Senate and the Vice-President of the United States.

It is mandatory to have obtained a two-third of the votes with the members present to convict an accused in the House of the Representatives. This conviction may remove the defendant from office and the Senate may vote to further punish the individual by barring him or her from
holding future federal office, elected or appointed. Once again, conviction by the Senate does not bring criminal prosecution. Even after an accused has left office, it is possible to disqualify this person for competing for any future office or even aspirating to his pension. Finally, if the defendant is found not guilty, he will be acquitted, and no punishment is imposed.

Congress has regarded impeachment as a power to be used only in extreme cases. This process by the House of Representatives was initiated only 64 times since 1789 but only most recently in 2010, Judge Thomas Porteous of the United States District Court for Eastern District of Louisiana was removed from office and impeached. As many as 14 federal judges were found guilty and removed from office. Supreme court Samuel Chase was impeached in 1804 and acquitted by the Senate. Judge Alcee Hastings was guilty for receiving in bribe 150,000 dollars in exchange of leniency. The Senate did not bar him from taking future office. He ran and won election to the House of Representatives in Florida. He was later considered as the choice to become Majority Leader in lieu of Nancy Pelosi. He did not follow the idea.

There have been also unsuccessful attempts to initiate impeachment proceedings on Presidents Richard Nixon, George W Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump. Many State Governors were also involved in impeachment and three of them were impeached and removed from office:

1- Jack Walton, Democratic Governor of Oklahoma for illegal collection of campaign funds, general incompetence and excessive use of power. He was convicted and removed from office in November 1923.

2- Evan Mecham, Republican Governor of Arizona was impeached and removed from office for misusing government funds and obstruction of Justice.

3- Rod Blagojevich, Democratic Governor of Illinois was impeached for abuse of power, corruption. He was removed from office in January 2009.

I hope this review on the Impeachment process in the United States, will allow many to understand the legal ramifications and the obstacles one has to face when such a decision has to be considered.

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8- Senate List of Impeachment Trails Archived. December 8, 2010 at Web cite

9- “Impeachment History” Infoplease Retrieved 2013-07-12

Dear Rony and Pierre-Paul

I want to congratulate both of you on the initiative to visit our brothers and sisters in Bahamas, following the passage of the Hurricane Dorian which brought with his rains and winds, devastation to Abaco and Gran Bahamas islands. I am thrilled to see that we followed the suggestions of Father Lavern who joined us at the last CEC meeting.

I did also receive the recent pictures you sent and will post them soon.

I wish that your intervention will stimulate others to open their heart and contribute in our effort to relieve the suffering of so many. It was nice to see both of you with the religious authorities of the land and among you, the numerous kids and their family members in distress. The AMHE is a group of Leaders and should never be second to any, nor we should be dependent on others to help.

I remember well the words of the actual bishop of Bahamas in an interview with Bishop Sansaricq which we published recently on AMHE Facebook page. He was voicing his admiration for our beloved Haitian bishop whom he praised for the way he inspired him to follow his footsteps in the hierarchy of the church. We know well that Father Sansaricq had an impact on the people of Bahamas when he worked as a young priest, for years.

Certainly, many have joined the AMHE exactly to be part of such missions able to relieve the suffering to the Haitian people. We have to continue to follow our heart and drive the medical community to participate in our activities. Let us bring back the glorious day of the Association.

Thanks for being leaders.

Maxime Coles MD

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Dear All,

We are back from Nassau Bahamas where Dr. Pierre-Paul Cadet and I had travelled yesterday for an in situ assessment of the destruction resulting from The Hurricane Dorian. We left the Fort. Lauderdale International Airport at 7:00 AM on Wednesday. Just 45 minutes later, from takeoff to touch down, we landed safely in Nassau Bahamas where we were able to observe a life that life pattern that has maintained its course without much interruption. We were welcome at the Lynden Piddling international Airport by father Junior Calixte, a young and dynamic Priest from the Archdiocese of the Bahamas who had already scheduled for us a full day of work in the different places where Haitians affected by the hurricane have been relocated.

By 900 AM, after a short detour to fill up the Gaz tank and to grab a Subway sandwich at the next door Mini Plaza, we were ready for what was going to be a very exciting and informational day of probing and assessment into the sad and ever tragic situation imposed on the Bahamian Haitian diaspora by the passage of Hurricane Dorian. They were living for most part in the ABACO Island, a place where Dorian pounded non-stop for over 24 hours, leaving behind a trail of dead and wounded bodies in a cataclysmic proportion almost never observed before..
We first visited the Kendall Isaac stadium, a make-shift shelter, where 181 Haitians have been relocated for two weeks after they were brought from ABACO in the days following the hurricane. There, we were greeted by Mrs. Andrea Newbold who gave us ample details of the shelter structure. People are allowed to come and leave the place up to 10:00 pm, which is the curfew time when everybody should be inside, and the shelter doors are closed. There is a nursery and a couple of social service employees waiting there to attend to the residents’ urgent needs. Air mattresses were spread all over the floor, some 200 and counting, that serve as bed and furniture at the same time for the residents. Many complained that the food came late and is not what they’re accustomed to eat at home. Others had a request for telephone or calling card in order to call home and inform their relatives of their fate.

School will open officially on Monday. Under the new law in the Bahamas that mandates “Education for all children”, these children will be able to go to school very soon regardless of their legal status or their citizenship. We are not sure from the UR SOLIS or the UR SANGUINI, Which one applies or is practiced in the Bahamas. Mrs. Andrea appeared to be well informed of the Haitian culture and quite sensitive to the trauma the residents are dealing with at this time. She seems also well equipped psychologically to help the victims cope with the ordeal and the anguish they are being consumed by at this time in their lives. Some people also voiced their frustration toward the Haitian Consulate in the Bahamas whose one of the representatives has come and requested a lumpsum of $200.00 in order to help them get their paper regularized. We were unable to verify the veracity of the statement. But it is obvious that the Haitian authorities will have to step up to the plate and help the victims regain their passports and other documents that they lost.

After one hour at the Kendall Isaac Gymnasium, talking to the residents, informing ourselves of the fate of the hurricane victims, as well explaining the purpose of our mission on behalf of the association, we headed to Calvary Baptist Shelter where 200 people have been initially relocated. At the time of the visit, there were about 80 of them still living in precarious condition at the church ground floor, with no hope of being able to sustain themselves anytime soon. Pastor Walter Junior Lucien who is the head of the congregation told us that there is a shortage of everything in his shelter: Detergents for laundry are needed, quarters to make the laundry machine turn, water, juice, soda etc. He had just finished collecting a $50 Bahamian dollars from a passerby when he agreed to talk to us at the entrance of his church. He said, waiving the $50.00 bill, this is all that I have to help those people. He added that he was still waiting for a new freezer from the Government officials who have come to visit two days ago and had promised to replace the broken appliance. There again, there were nurses, doctors and social service employees ready to attend the hurricane victims.

The third place we visited after the Gymnasium and the Calvary Baptist church was the Pilgrim Baptist temple, a majestic all-white building that was occupied by about 68 of the hurricane victims. Eleven of them were children who are expected to go back to school soon. We were asked to bring chips, backpack and reading book, color pencils so they can draw pictures and get themselves involved in design and artistic work to keep themselves occupied. On top of the elements previously mentioned as part of the shelter structure, there was even a physical trainer whose job was to encouraging the residents to exercise in a make-shift fitness room that was erected for the occasion. We were told to bring everything that we could as there is a dire need for food, water, and coversheet at the shelter. We thank sincerely Mrs. Genette Gardner, the Social work employee who welcome us with opened arms and described so brilliantly for us the situation at the Pilgrim Baptist temple.
Last but not least, we visited the Fox hills community Center where we found people at both end of the block, joking, cornering father Calixte from all directions asking either for phone and money or for a calling card in order to reach a family member. He reports being overwhelmed some time by the magnitude and the complexity of the situation but he has a very soothing tone of voice that helps calm down and reassures in the most difficult of the circumstances. Cell phone were not allowed inside the fox hills center and in neither one of the other centers that we visited. There were a total of 52 kids out of 142 residents relocated at the Fox Hills shelter. We took some time to talk to the officers and the soldiers posted at the entrance door and to thank them heartfully for their service to their own country and to our fellow brothers and sisters.

After visiting the last Shelter, we stopped for a short while at the Residence of father Calixte to drop the six bags and carry-ons that we brought from the states to help address the needs of the victims. We were supposed to attend a meeting of the prime minister with the religious leaders of the Haitian community in order to further debate the fate of the Hurricane victims. However, due to several foreign dignitaries visiting the Bahamas on that day, the meeting had to be postponed.

Fortunately, while at the residence of father Junior Calixte, we were delighted to know that the Archbishop of the Bahamas, His grace, Patrick Pinder wanted to meet with us to discuss the current crisis. He was very open minded, well informed of the plight of the hurricane victims. He told us that ABACO will have to be rebuilt and people will be able to find job and rebuild their own homes. He reminds us how then father Sansaricq was always an inspiration for him when he was a young kid attending mass at the parish. He added that he has always been surrounded by Haitians for most of his life. We had a picture with him and father Calixte on the steps of the old cathedral and he insisted that this picture be sent to Monseigneur Sansaricq today living in Brooklyn, as a place that he will recognize and in remembrance of the days when he was a priest at the parish, years back.

Upon leaving the Archdiocese, just before stopping for a bite at one of the restaurants in town, Father Calixte made one last effort to take us to Pasteur Saint-Louis's church, one more community leader involved in the plight of the Haitian diaspora in the Bahamas. We missed Pasteur Saint Louis by a few minutes as he had to leave to attend another function in town. We were able to talk by phone and we promised to see him at the next visit. After a well deserved recess at one of the small restaurants in town, it was almost time to head back to the Airport. We closed the day with a last minute meeting with a representative of OATH, a recently founded Haitian-Bahamian philanthropic organization whose goal is to help Haitians overcome the difficulties of integration and to represent their interest in front of the Bahamian government. Father Calixte and a Bahamian activist woman named Janet Brown are the co-chair of the Organization. Father Calixte is solicited from everywhere, and by many with all kinds of needs. We left the organization with a check for $1000.00 that will serve to facilitate laundry services and access to phone cards and other basic needs. Father Calixte is required to assess the needs wherever they arise and to help with this check as he sees fit. This is one of the organizations that we should support from time to time with a check, as the rehabilitation process is going to be long and strenuous.

GENERAL FACTS:

In the meantime, came a declaration from Prime minister, Dr. Hubert Minnis and published in Wednesday TRIBUNE, where he says that there will be no more shanty houses in ABACO. For too long, added he, those constructions have proliferated in complete violations of any building code and were not able to withstand the test of time and assaults from hurricanes and other bad weather conditions.

He said that this is going to stop…Every sign is there to indicate that the Island of ABACO will be rebuilt.
ABACO is close for the moment. However, Archbishop Patrick has promised to contact the minister of health on our behalf in case we would like to arrange for a visit. We promised to get back to him once a bigger group of doctors will be willing to make the trip with the Association. According to the TRIBUNE, a daily paper in the Bahamas, the death toll rose to 51 yesterday after a new body was discovered. However, many believe that the real number will never be known as many victims were carried away into the ocean.

The rules at the shelter System vary from one place to the next. People have up to 10:00 PM every night to come back if they leave the shelter. The Bahamian army that is mobilized and deployed for security purpose has been able to maintain law and order... and the needs are various from money for laundry machine, refrigerators and freezers that need to be repaired, detergents for people to wash their clothes, linen sheets to cover at night., let alone back pack for children, color pencils, food, chips and candies, phone card with minutes for people to reach their relatives, reading books for children who will be return to schools soon, under wears for women, clothes for people to wear, jobs opportunities etc. There are between 8 to 12 provisional shelters where people have been relocated. We were able to visit only four (4) of them hoping to visit the other ones the second time around. It is reported that at the early stage of the crisis, many preferred to stay away from the shelters system out of fear that they might end up being deported. But we have full reassurance from the Bahamian Authorities that there will be no massive deportation of Haitian immigrants back to their native land.

CONCLUSION:

We have seen the despair and the desolation in our people's eyes. The anguish is everywhere. Many are asking themselves for how long they will have to be at the shelters? The fear of massive deportation has been dissipated as we were given the assurance that the Government has no intention of deporting anyone at this time. They are even encouraging people to come to the shelters and have themselves registered. We know that life will never be the same, specially for those family members who have been separated from their loved ones by the high tides of the ocean and by the flood, and who will never see them anew or alive.' Their lives have been changed for ever. We will need to revisit with them again and again and try to make a difference in their lives. You will be amazed at the big impact a few dollars can have on those peoples' lives. Do not hesitate to help and to contribute to this mission. In a last discussion with father Calixte on how to help someone whose life has been so terribly disrupted by the misfortunes of life, he responded that all we can do now is to give them hope for a better tomorrow. Hope is the vehicle of faith which is itself a true assurance of things to come that are yet to be seen. We concluded the conversation by agreeing that "some time after losing everything, in the middle of your calamity, any little hope that you find, can take you a long way forward". I saw hope in the eyes of those children who were running among the Air mattresses, giggling and playing as if tomorrow was as bright as yesterday I see hope in the generosity of those two ladies who gave us respectively a bag of goodies and a bill of $10.00 to add to the purchase when we were paying for the items at the Dollar tree store. We hope you can continue to support the local relief agencies, the AMHE and you will not turn your heart away from their needs.

RONY JEAN-MARY, M.D.
FLORIDA CHAPTER PRESIDENT
AMHE/CEC VICE-PRESIDENT.

JOSEPH PIERRE-PAUL CADET
AMHE CEC PRESIDENT.

Dorian Relief Mission Bahamas - September 2019
Dear AMHE Members, Family, and Friends,

The news coming out of the Bahamas is getting worse by the minute.

As hurricane Dorian reared its ugly head in the Caribbean Sea, Abaco and Grand Bahama suffered the brunt of the storm. Unfortunately, the 14,000 Haitians living in those islands saw their already precarious lives and their hope for better days vanish before their eyes.

We MUST ACT QUICKLY to bring relief to our Haitian brothers and sisters.

AMHE wasted no time in the aftermath of this tragedy. We have been working relentlessly to deliver relief to those left reeling, but we can do much more with your support. We need you to empower our ability to serve those in dire need now.

At this time, AMHE leaders have already contributed nearly 15,000.00 and have already sent first aid items to this cause. We need to raise $50,000.00 within the next two weeks. Please join us in this endeavor.

Donate now to the AMHE Dorian Fund at amhe.org.

Fraternally yours,

Joseph Pierre-Paul Cadet, MD
AMHE President

Published on the AMH Facebook page last two weeks

Articles parus sur la page Facebook de l'AMHE durant la dernière semaine

805 Sick, 13 Dead from Mysterious Vaping Illnesses - Rita Bellevue MD en uniform de girl scout. MC - Post Dorian AMHE Medical Mission: Dear Rony and Pierre-Paul - Thyroid hormones affect nearly every organ in your body - they can even influence how quickly your heart beats. - Parnell Cornet MD and Addie are happy in their retirement. Best wishes. MC - Alabama Man Free of Sickle Cell After Gene Therapy - Sudden Health Problems After 50 - Calling it Orthostatic Intolerance, in specific occasions... MC - Father Junior Calixte distribue a l'un des centres pour les demunis a Nassau, - Haiti survit de ses lauriers. MC - Promotion 1932 Ecole de Medecine avec le directeur général du service d'Hygiene.

And more…
CRI DE DETRESSE

20 Septembre 2019

Aujourd’hui, la FHADIMAC, institution au service des diabétiques et hypertendus depuis plus de 33 ans, a été agressée.

Alors que dans un article paru dans le Nouvelliste du jour, je mentionnais les difficultés d’exercer la profession pour laquelle j’ai prêté serment de sauver des vies contre vents et marées, aujourd’hui, j’ai été violée dans l’exercice de mes fonctions humanitaires.

La FHADIMAC, alors qu’elle était ouverte et soulageait des patients nécessiteux, a été la cible de jets de pierres nourris contre son édifice bien que ses assaillants aient été informés que c’était un centre de santé. Ces jeunes adolescents, munis de pierres transportés dans leurs sacs à dos et probablement dirigés par des éclaireurs, sous l’effet de substances chimiques les rendant insensibles à la portée de leurs actes, se sont acharnés contre les vitres de la façade de notre édifice comme si les bruits de casse les excitaient de plus en plus à continuer. Mes employés et patients ont dû se coucher par terre pour ne pas être dans la trajectoire des pierres, mais les tessons de verre leur sont tombés en plein visage.

Je proteste contre cet état de fait qui ne changera malheureusement rien à la situation puisque tout le monde est terrorisé et tétanisé par le comportement de ces maitres de la rue en l’absence d’autorité responsable et consciente pour faire respecter ou protéger les vies et les biens d’autrui.

Je pardonne à ces délinquants mais plains leurs manipulateurs. Je ne comprends pas qu’un être humain normal puisse être aussi méchant pour assouvir ses propres intérêts en ignorant la vie de ses frères et sœurs malades déjà plongés dans l’adversité.

Aujourd’hui, la FHADIMAC a été agressée.

Qui sera le prochain ?

Patrick Doucet MD a ete rejoindre son createur aujourd'hui. Jadis, nous avons franchi le Rubicon cote-a-cote comme membres de la Promotion Jean-Price Mars de.1976. Nos chemins se sont croises a maintes reprises, lors de mes nombreux voyages en Haiti et nous garderons de lui le souvenir d'un confrere jovial et competent.

Ce n'est qu'un aurevoir Patrick, les portes d'un meilleur monde te laisseront rentrer sans hesitation.
Bon voyage cher compagnon..
Que la terre te soit legere!.
Maxime Coles
A poem dedicated to all the women in the world, proud to be in Love. MC

The brilliance of her eyes (Maxime Coles MD)

Your beautiful eyes captured my soul,
The change in color varies with your mood.

Dark green, like an avocado, earlier in the morning,
They become pale green at sun awakening,

I wonder if a metamorphose has affected
The iris while drinking the early cup of coffee.

Or if the vegetable mixed fruit drink at breakfast,
Has overshadowed the gleam of the sun.

So, I stand in the dawn of her beauty,
As she breathes deeply, into satisfaction.

The sun shines timidly in the midday,
And become an accomplice of her passion.

I swoon in the noon of her eyes,
To admire the mystical stars
And dream of invading her soul,
To fall into a hysteria of Love.

A fascinating night in her arms,
Brings her shining eyes in the dark, all teary,

While suddenly, in a sublime orgasm,
She reaches her sexual desire, in Love.
Upcoming Events

AMHE’s bio just got a bit stronger and a bit more interesting.

On November 9, 2019, the Haitian Roundtable has selected AMHE to receive the 1804 Cathrine Flon Award. It is an extreme honor for AMHE to be this year’s recipient of the 1804 Catherine Flon award.

It would be great if you considered attending this event to applaud AMHE at the 6th Annual Haitian Roundtable event. Ticket are available for purchase at Event Brite

AMHE
Central Executive Committee